Association (IATA) have recently interacted with this Ministry to discuss various matters pertaining to civil aviation. IATA has taken up a feasibility study with a view to setting up an IATA learning centre in India. They are also analysing the immediate and future needs of the Indian market for formulating a proposal in this regard.

International Flights from Kochi Airport

3048. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any steps to start new international flights from Kochi Airport;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of applications from the foreign Airlines pending in this regard; and

(d) the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) to (d) Air India and Indian Airlines together are presently operating 30 services per week out of Cochin. Out of the eleven (11) airlines namely Oman Air, Kuwait Airways. Gulf Air, Sri Lankan Airlines, Qatar Airways. Emirates, Saudia, Singapore Airlines, Yemen Airways, Aeroflot and Uzbekistan Airways, who have expressed interest to operate services to/from Cochin, Oman Air has been granted Cochin as a new point of call during recently concluded bilateral air services consultation on 13.8.2001. The Government of India has also agreed to grant Cochin as a point of call in lieu of Chennai to Saudia as requested by them. A commitment has also been given to grant Cochin as a point of call to Emirates by September 2002. Cochin as also been offered as a point of call to the designated airlines of Kuwait and Yemen subject to a commercial agreement with the designated airline of India.

Air Bus Service on Bhubaneswar Delhi Route

3049. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state whether Government would consider to send Air Bus every day to Bhubaneswar-Delhi instead of

three days in a week, in view of the increasing passenger traffic to Bhubaneswar?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): Indian Airlines has no immediate plans to provide daily A 320 services between Bhubaneswar and Delhi since the A 320 fleet is fully committed for operation of services in the existing schedule.

Lack of Medical Emergency at Hyderabad Airport

3050. DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:-

(a) whether it is a fact that the Rajiv Gandhi International Airport Hyderabad lacks emergency medical equipment;

(b) whether it is also a fact that there is no provision for a doctor at the first-aid centre; and

(c) if so, the measures Government propose to take to improve medicare at the Airport?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) to (c) First Aid Facilities are available at the Emergency Centre at Hyderabad airport round the clock to meet any emergency requirement. First Aid is rendered by the duly trained Fire & Rescue Staff of the airport. The facilities/equipments available are:

Three ambulances, Hospital beds, portable Oxygen cylinders, light weight structures, diagnostic sets, BP apparatus, Ressuscitation apparatus, Emergency surgical equipments, Vacuum suction set, ECG sets, Life saving drugs and other medicines etc. In addition, another first aid centre is also functional round the clock in NTR terminal which may also meet any emergency and is equipped with all the facilities/equipments. Doctors are available on call from the panel of Airports Authority of India.

Construction of hangars at Begumpet Airport, Hyderabad

3051. DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for the delay in the construction of more hangars at Begumpet Airport, Hyderabad;